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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/630,707

07/31/2003

Atsushi Sutoh

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04/26/2006

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.  
1800 DIAGONAL ROAD  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

MIZRAHI, DIANE D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2165

DATE MAILED: 04/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/630,707

Applicant(s)

SUTOH ET AL.

Examiner

DIANE D. MIZRAHI

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on kij7-31-03 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11-10-05;5-5-05</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

III. DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-23 are presented for examination and are pending.

Drawings

The Examiner contends that the drawings submitted on July 31, 2003 are acceptable for examination proceedings, only.

Specification

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract is two paragraphs and should be one paragraph.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC . 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefore, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claims are directed to a non-statutory subject matter, specifically, the claims are not directed towards the final result that is "useful, tangible and concrete.

(See State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373-74 USPQ2d at 1601-02).

According to the New Guidelines of October 26, 2005, which states that "A claim limited to a machine or manufacture, which has a practical application, is statutory. In most cases a claim to a specific machine or manufacture will have a practical application. See Alappat, 33 F.3d at 1544, 31 USPQ2d at 1557)... a specific machine to produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result and State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373-74 USPQ2d at 1601-02).

(Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility  
<[http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mdmd7pbab.0.kbg76pbab.p9qiiibab.7440&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.uspto.gov%2Fweb%2Foffices%2Fpac%2Fdapp%2Fopla%2Fpreognotice%2Fguidelines101\\_20051026.pdf](http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=mdmd7pbab.0.kbg76pbab.p9qiiibab.7440&p=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.uspto.gov%2Fweb%2Foffices%2Fpac%2Fdapp%2Fopla%2Fpreognotice%2Fguidelines101_20051026.pdf)> )

Examiner requests Applicant to include in Applicants claimed limitations (in all the claims) the following:

What is the practical application?

What is the result?

What is final result that is concrete, useful and tangible?

Because the "practical application, result, concrete, useful and tangible" limitations are not claimed in Applicant's claims, Examiner believes that the above listed claims are nonstatutory.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 5 and 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Examiner is unclear as to what exactly Applicant intended regarding the claimed, "transmission/receiving" and "to/from". Which is it? Does Applicant mean transmission or receiving or to or from? Further clarification is required.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section

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351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Schlieben et al. (U.S. Publication No. 20030096605 A1 and Rodriguez hereinafter).

Regarding Claims 1 and 3, Schlieben teaches a plurality of storage devices each including a storage medium for storing data [0097]; a controller for controlling said plurality of storage devices [0412]; and means for notifying an external device of a change in data stored in a specific one of said plurality of storage devices [0507], said external device being connected to said controller [0412].

Regarding Claim 2, Schlieben an interface for externally selecting said specific one of said plurality of storage devices, [0521] wherein said change in said data stored in said specific one of said plurality of storage devices is to be notified to said external device [0507].

Regarding Claim 4, Schlieben teaches: an interface for externally selecting said specific one of said plurality of storage devices, wherein said change in said state of said

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specific one of said plurality of storage devices is to be notified to said external device [0358].

Regarding Claims 5-7, the limitations are similar in scope to the rejected claims above and are therefore rejected as set forth above.

Regarding Claim 8, Schlieben teaches a primary system including a first computer system and a first storage system connected to said first computer system [0095]; and a secondary system including a second computer system and a second storage system connected to said second computer system ; wherein at least said first storage system and said second storage system are connected to each other; said data control method comprising the steps of [0105]: into a specific storage device within said first storage system, registering (storing) a log based on which an update of data stored in said first storage system can be recreated [0097] said data being produced as a result of processing performed by said first computer system [0358][0339]; copying said log registered in said specific storage device within said first storage system to a specific storage device within said second storage system [0097], said specific storage device within said second storage system being set to duplicate [0225,0217] said log [0097]; updating said data stored in said first storage system, said data being produced as a result of

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said processing performed by said first computer system [0263]; notifying said second computer system of a change in data stored in said specific storage device within said second storage system, said change being made as a result of performing said copying step [0217,0225]; reading said change in said data stored in said specific storage device within said second storage system, this step being performed by said second computer system; and updating a duplicate of said data (stored in said first storage system) based on a log read by said second computer system, said duplicate being stored in said second storage system [0225, 0217, 0313,0097].

Regarding Claims 9-23 these claims are similar in scope to the rejected claims above and are therefore rejected as set forth above.

**Other Prior Art Made of Record**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure. U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications will not be supplied with Office actions. Examiners advises the Applicant that the cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are available for download via the Office's PAIR. As an alternate



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source, all U.S. patents and patent application publications are available on the USPTO web site ([www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)), from the Office of Public Records and from commercial sources. For the use of the Office's PAIR system, Applicants may refer to the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at <http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/index.html> or 1-866-217-9197.

### **Conclusion**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Diane D. Mizrahi whose telephone number is 571-272-4079. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey Gaffin can be reached on (571) 272-4146. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 305-3900 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'DM', is written above a horizontal line.

Diane Mizrahi  
Primary Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2100

April 20, 2005